



Religious leaders led by Catholic Bishop Dominic Kimengich address members of the press on the state of peace in Uasin Gishu County. Photo Credit: Saferworld

KENYA

AMPLIFYING COMMUNITY VOICES FOR SUSTAINABLE PEACE IN KENYA

Positive contact and interaction among communities can stamp out ethnic fears, misconceptions, and stereotypes. The Amplifying Community Voices for Sustainable Peace in Kenya program aims to reduce future conflict and promote ethnic reconciliation by creating safe spaces where people from different communities, ethnic minorities, and commonly excluded groups can come together to build resilient relationships and engage in conversations on key issues that drive conflict.

OUR WORK

The Amplifying Community Voices for Sustainable Peace in Kenya program promotes dialogue and aims at mitigating future conflict at the community level through People-to-People approaches and citizen participation in county and national level conversations. The program's approach centers on an in-depth understanding of the conflict dynamics in the target counties, and interventions are aligned to the target counties' development priorities, in line with USAID'S Journey to Self-Reliance (J2SR). Our work focuses on:

CREATING A SAFE ENVIRONMENT AND MECHANISMS FOR PEACEFUL COMMUNITY INTERACTION ACROSS EXISTING INTERGROUP FRACTURES

The program works with target communities to identify safe spaces for intra- and inter-community dialogue. The dialogue sessions provide a platform for single and mixed identity groups to consolidate key conflict drivers, address intra-county divisions, and develop conflict resolution recommendations. The program also enhances local capacities by training local mediators to respond to localized conflict effectively.

SUPPORTING LOCAL COMMUNITIES TO CONSTRUCTIVELY ENGAGE IN COUNTY AND NATIONAL LEVEL DISCOURSE ON ISSUES THAT DRIVE CONFLICT

The program adopts an inclusive people-led process that facilitates coordination between citizens and relevant local authorities through:

- Facilitating town hall meetings which seek opportunities for community representatives to highlight their development needs and priorities to local authorities, focusing especially on matters that affect peace and security.
- Addressing community concerns emanating from exclusion and inadequate representation of marginalized groups, by supporting the participation of ethnic minorities, women and youth, civil society organizations, and religious leaders in ongoing county and national dialogue processes.

ACHIEVEMENTS

To date, the program has:

- Designed a conflict assessment tool to guide the implementation of conflict assessments in the target counties and at the national level.
- Secured program buy-in from county and national government authorities in Uasin Gishu, Kiambu, and Nairobi counties.
- Successfully aligned its activities to the Kiambu County Government 2018-2022 County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP) priorities for the purpose of co-implementation.
- Engaged 89 community representatives and local authorities in joint planning of community-level interventions and identification of local mediators.

BUDGET: USD \$1,269,000

DURATION: 2019 – 2021

ACTIVITY LOCATIONS:

Bungoma, Kiambu, Kisumu, Nairobi, and Uasin Gishu counties

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER

Saferworld

KEY PARTNERS

National Steering Committee on Peacebuilding and Conflict Management
National Cohesion and Integration Commission
Target County Governments
County Commissioners
Religious leaders and institutions
Civil Society Organizations

USAID CONTACTS

Hassan Abdi Abdille
Activity Manager
Tel: +254-712-827-331
Email: habdille@usaid.gov

PARTNER CONTACTS

Emmy Auma,
Ag Country Manager
Cell: +254-722-958-611
Email: eauma@saferworld.org.uk

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Email: usaidkea@usaid.gov
Website: www.usaid.gov/kenya
Facebook: USAIDKenya
Twitter: @USAIDKenya